

Health Department 2021 Annual Report

The Peterborough Health Department consists of the health officer, Edmund Walker, and deputy health officer, Tim Herlihy, and exists to enforce applicable New Hampshire laws and administrative rules; serve as a liaison between state officials, local elected officials, and the community on issues concerning local environmental and public health; and finally, as active participant in efforts to develop regional environmental and public health capacities.

During 2021 most of our time was spent on issues related to the COVID-19 pandemic and working with the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services, town government, our citizens, and our community on the current guidance, recommendations, and best practices. Unfortunately, some of this work resulted in the need for enforcement around failure to understand or comply with the mandates and we would like to thank the Peterborough Police Department for their assistance when needed.

In addition to pandemic related activities, we continued to work on other health related issues including inspections of schools and day care facilities, following up on complaints of health code violations, and working with other town departments to help ensure the residents, employees, and visitors to our town have the healthiest possible experience.

Please remember to go to the town website (www.townofpeterborough.com) and sign up for NIXLE emergency notifications. This free system provides our residents, and other who frequent town, with critical information in the event of a local emergency. You are also encouraged to sign up for NH Alerts, a free service to provide emergency NH Alerts by the New Hampshire Department of Safety, Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management. Emergency and community messages are initiated by authorized public safety officials at the State level and severe weather warnings are initiated directly by the National Weather Service. Additional information is available at: <http://www.readynh.gov>.

For information on health issues, you can contact Health Officer Ed Walker at (603) 784-5601 or the Deputy Health Officer at (603) 924-8000 x118. You can also check the Town's website at www.peterboroughnh.gov for additional information.

Respectfully Submitted,

Edmund M. Walker, Health Officer
Tim Herlihey, Deputy Health Officer